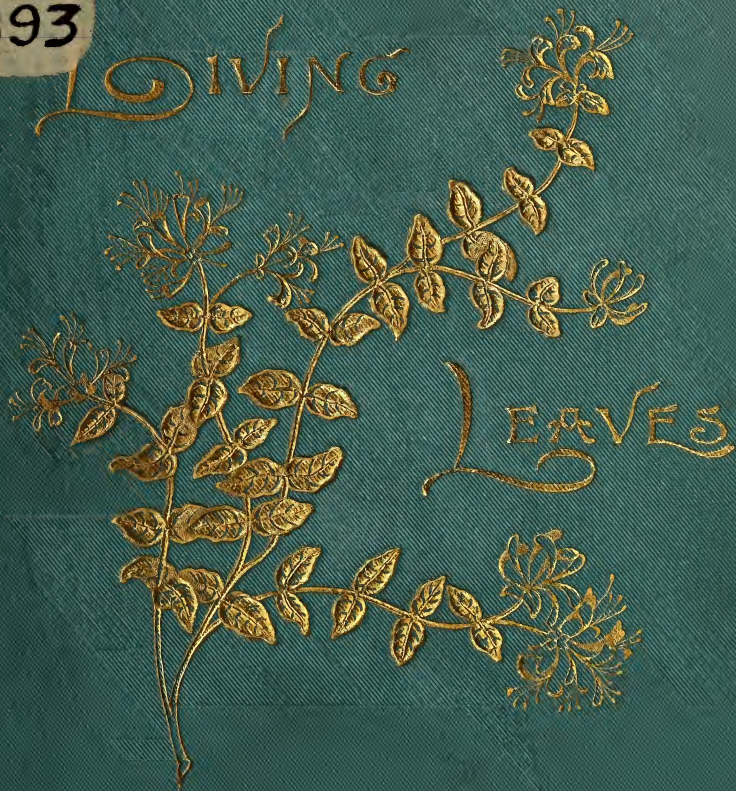


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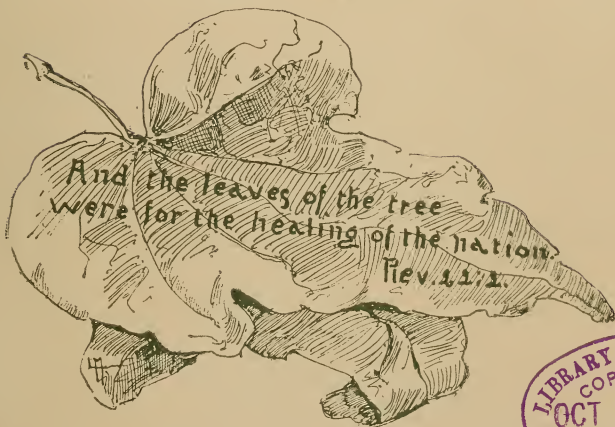
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

LIVING LEAVES
FOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

LIVING LEAVES
FOR
CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

By S. C. Bennett



The life of the leaf is in the Living Word upon it.

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For the Word of God is living and powerful; . . . and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

HEB. iv: 12.

pledge

OF THE

Young People's Society

OF

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do; that I will pray to Him, and read the Bible every day, and that, just so far as I know how, throughout my whole life, I will try to live a Christian life.

“The dew of our youth, even the morning of our days, ought to be consecrated to our Lord Jesus. Were not our lives given us by Him, and shall we not use them in His service?”

Never empty in returning
Is Thine own most precious Word ;
May these texts in hearts be “ burning ”
Guiding them to Thee, our Lord.

These texts have been arranged especially for the thousands of young folks who belong to the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor. Yet they are equally appropriate for all, old and young, who are endeavoring to know and serve the Lord; those who are pressing forward "toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Some one has said that in every verse in the Bible there may be found a royal road to Christ; and these few selections (each leaf of which presents a different thought for endeavor) are intended as way-marks, all leading toward Him.

S. E. B.

Earnest, constant in endeavor —
Willing service let us give ;
Reaching after God, and ever
Drawing nearer while we live.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

How significant the name! how bright and good! and I hope each one of you will honor it, by endeavoring to be Christlike.

To "endeavor" means more than making one trial or many attempts; it means continued effort,—in joy or sorrow; health or sickness; business or repose; alone or in company; Sundays or weekdays; it means "forgetting the things which are behind" and reaching forward toward Christ and His service continually until the end of life.

Read Joshua xxiv. 1, also verses 14-25, and 2 Kings xxiii. 1-3 and see if you do not think they held Endeavor meetings hundreds of years ago!

And may God's Spirit witness with yours that you are endeavoring to "stand" to your pledge.

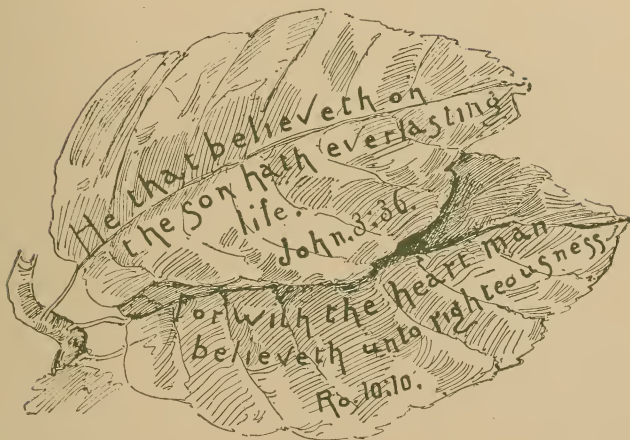
The heart is the very inmost self, the deepest depth of our being; hidden from our fellows, little known to ourselves, yet "naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

If His searching eye finds there hatred of sin, true love to Himself, and a disposition to do His will, then we are truly Christians.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be a true Christian.

Ye must be born again. JOHN iii. 7.



Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. 2 Cor. v. 17.

“ My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness ;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name,
On Christ the solid Rock I stand —
All other ground is sinking sand.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Build on the sure foundation.



Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock : and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house : and it fell not : for it was founded upon a rock.

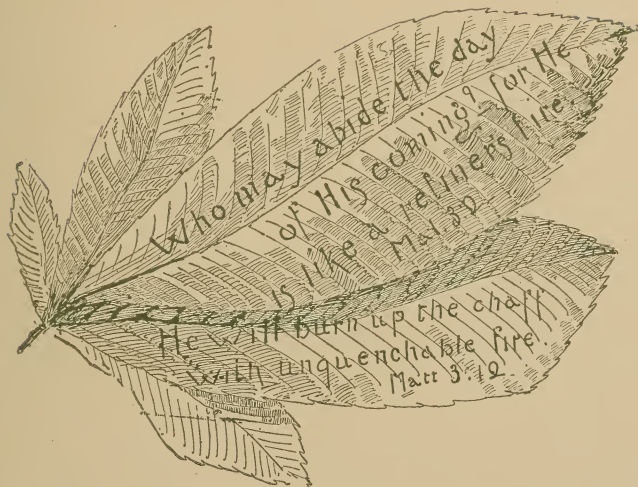
MATT. vii. 24, 25.

Nothing but perfect truth and holiness can stand in the presence of God's holiness!

How, then, and with what shall we build, that our work may abide?

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Build with material that will abide the test.



Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

1 COR. iii. 13.

Not only is all outward sin to be "put off," but everything that is wrong within. Every thought and every purpose, although it be so secret that we are scarcely conscious of it ourselves, is noted by God's omniscient eye.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Put off all wrong doing.



Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds.

COL. iii. 9.

But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

COL. iii. 8.

The new man loves to please his God,
And puts on every Christian grace;
Would gladly follow where He trod, —
And imitates His righteousness.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

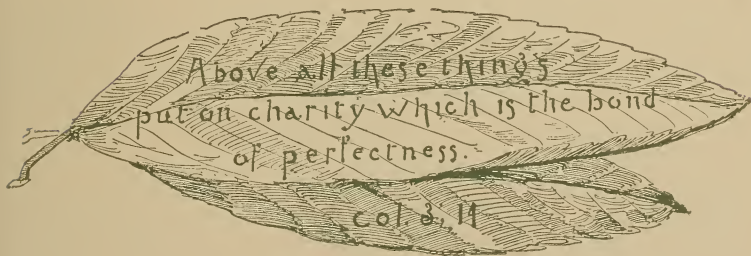
Put on likeness to Christ.

Put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

EPH. iv. 24.

Put on therefore . . . bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering; forbearing one another, forgiving one another.

COL. iii. 12, 13.



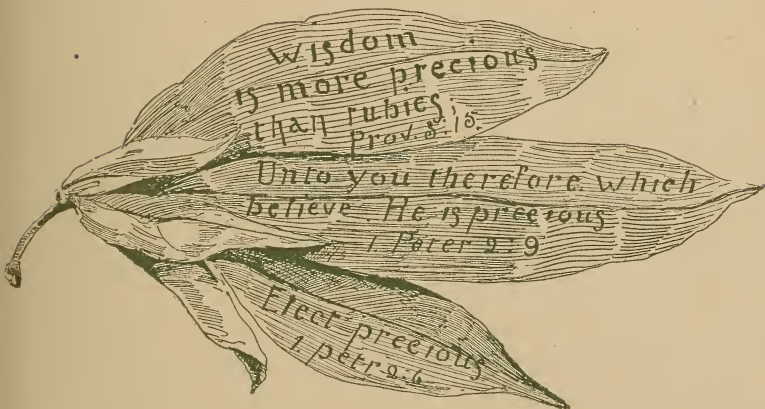
“ Who that one moment, has the least descried Him
Faintly and dimly, hidden and afar,
Doth not despise all excellence, beside Him,
Pleasures and powers that are not and that are.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Set my affections on things above.

. . . Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where
thieves do not break through nor steal.

MATT. vi. 20.



. . . For where your treasure is, there will your heart
be also.

MATT. vi. 21.

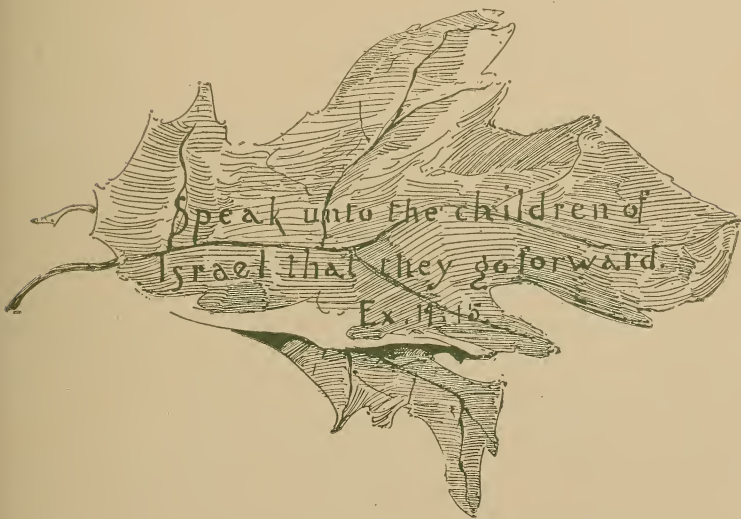
The way to God is always upward, and always before us.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Go onward and upward.

. . . Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

HEB. xii. 1.



. . . This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark.

PHIL. iii. 13, 14.

“ Strong, in the Lord of Hosts,
And in His mighty power;
The man who in the Saviour trusts
Is more than conqueror.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Look to Jesus for strength.

. . . Without me ye can do nothing.

JOHN xv. 5.

. . . In the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Is. xxvi. 4.

. . . My strength is made perfect in weakness.

2 COR. xii. 9.



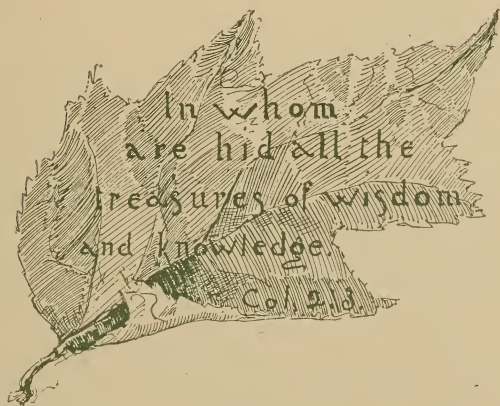
“ He nothing knows, who knows not this,
That earth can yield no settled bliss,
 No lasting portion give;
He all things knows, who knows to place
His hopes on Christ's redeeming grace,
 Who died that we might live.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Seek true wisdom.

. . . Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

1 COR. i. 24.



If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

JAMES i. 5.

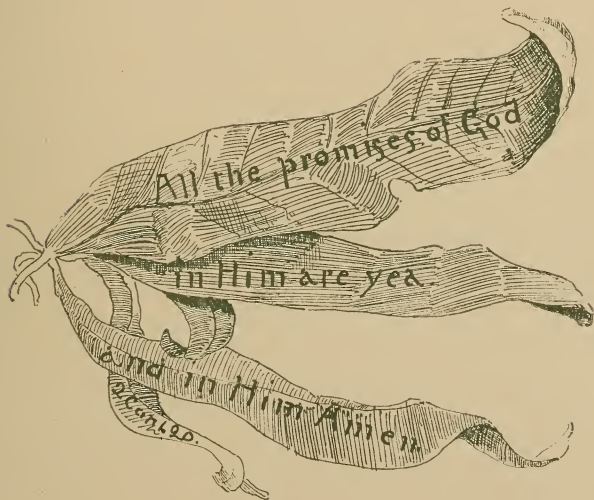
God leadeth us, in places safe,
Nor heeds the lengthened ways ;
While we, no danger seeing, chafe
And wonder at delays.
Why do we ? when our hearts should know
How tenderly He loves ;
And that each step through " weal or woe,"
His " loving kindness " proves.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Remember that God, in Christ, keeps His promises.

. . . Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises.

2 PETER i. 4.



. . . Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you.

JOSH. xxiii. 14.

“ Our wisest plans fail on the morrow,
Or, succeeding, bring us sorrow ;
 Incomplete is all our bliss.
Faith in Christ alone relieves us,
We may trust, He ne’er deceives us,
 And that trust brings perfect peace.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Believe that God knows best.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Prov. iii. 5.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

ISA. lv. 9.



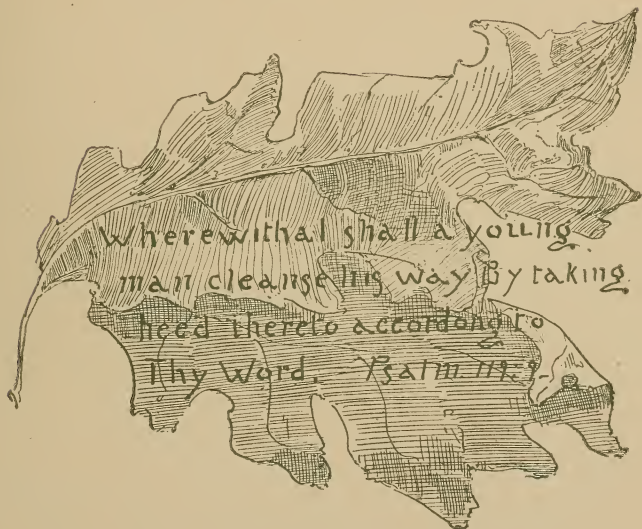
Were a letter sent from Heaven
 Bearing on it your own name ;
God-indited — by Him given —
 Would it not be sin and shame,
If you failed to study well
All the truth that He would tell ?
 — Study then His word.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Study the Bible.

Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

JOHN v. 39.



These were more noble than those, . . . in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

ACTS xvii. 11.

A young Christian was nearing death. He had for a long time taken very little food. In reply to an expression of sympathy from his pastor, he said, "I feed upon His Word."

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Feed upon the Word.

. . . Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

MATT. iv. 4.



Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not?

. . . Eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

ISA. lv. 2.

The source of this upspringing well is always full; why then should we go away thirsty, when we are bidden to take freely?

A preacher once said that this half-satisfied way of living was like dwelling on the shore of Lake Ontario, and yet going thirsty; or like dipping the water into a bowl for a bath; instead of plunging into its waters.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Accept God as my Leader, and trust Him.

. . . I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit; which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

ISA. xlviii. 17.



. . . God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure, the people repent when they see war; — but God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea.

EX. xiii. 17, 18.

Our dim perceptions scarcely catch a glimpse
Of the great truths, that, folded in His Word
Await eternal years for perfect, full
Development. Yet, blessed Teacher, come
And dwell within, drive from our wayward hearts
All sinful ignorance, and strengthen Thou
Our mental vision, that, perceiving soon
And gladly learning, we may understand
All that Thou would'st to us unfold.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Ask for the Holy Spirit's teaching.

If ye then being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?

LUKE xi. 13.



. . . He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

JN. xiv. 26.

Just to ask Him what to do,
Every day,
And to make you quick and true
To obey. . . .
Just to take thy orders straight
From the Master's own command.
Blessed day! when thus we wait
Always at our Sovereign's hand.

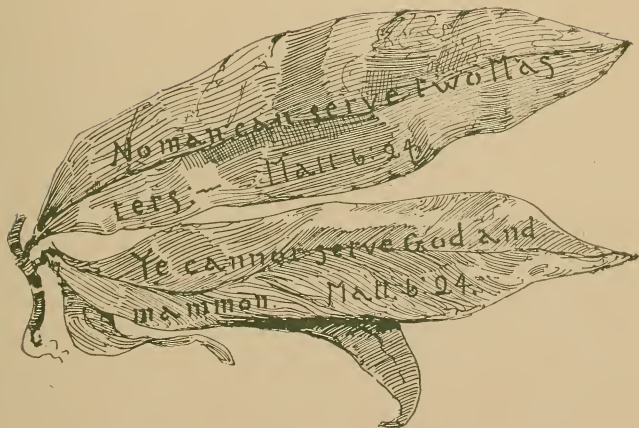
F. R. HAVERGAL.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be obedient to my Master.

. . . One is your Master, even Christ.

MATT. xxiii. 10.



Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey?

ROMANS vi. 16.

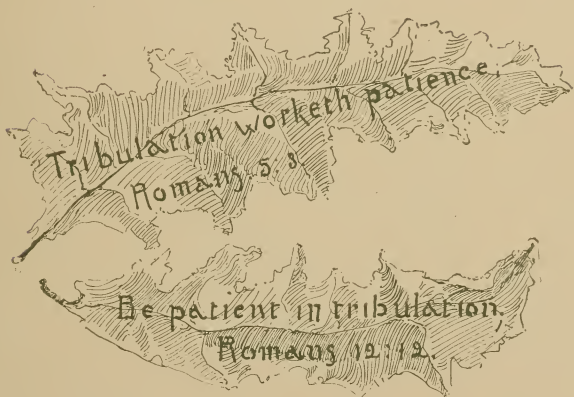
Await His will; when it unfolds
'Twill show the riches that it holds.
In trial ever patient be —
Resting in faith. -- waiting to see.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be patient.

. . . Ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

HEB. x. 36.



But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

JAMES i. 4.

This is a hard lesson, and can only be learned in the school of Christ, and with the most of us, the page has to be often "turned."

Miss Havergal says :

" And let our hearts 'be still,'

Though our task is turned to-day ;

O let Him teach us what He will

In His own gracious way :

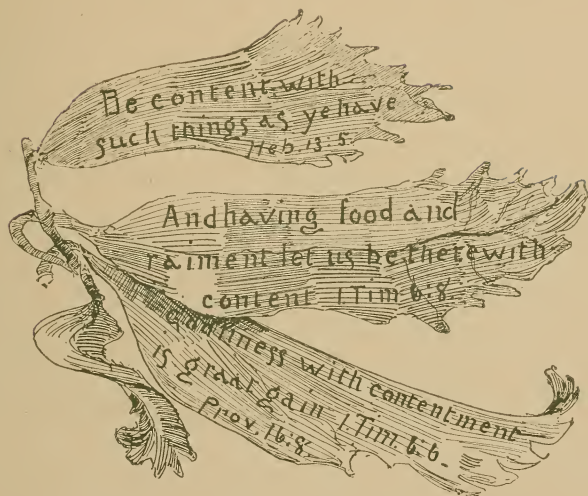
Till sitting only at Jesus' feet

As we learn each line

The hardest is found all clear and sweet."

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be contented.



. . . I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

PHIL. iv. 11.

Precious, precious blood of Jesus,
Shed on Calvary;
Shed for rebels, shed for sinners,
Shed for me.

Though thy sins are red like crimson,
Deep in scarlet glow,
Jesus' precious blood can make them
White as snow.

F. R. HAVERGAL.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

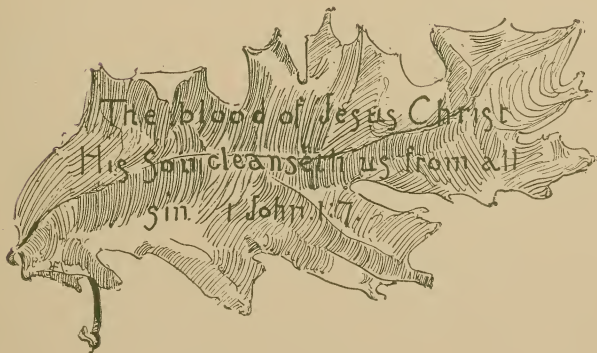
Think often of what Christ has done for me.

. . . The soul that sinneth it shall die.

EZE. xviii. 4.

. . . Without shedding of blood is no remission.

HEB. ix. 22.



Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, . . . to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

REV. i. 5, 6.

“His love is constant as the sun,
Though clouds oft come between;
And could our faith but pierce those clouds,
He might be always seen.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Remember His wonderful love.

. . . God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

JOHN iii. 16.



Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 JOHN iv. 10.

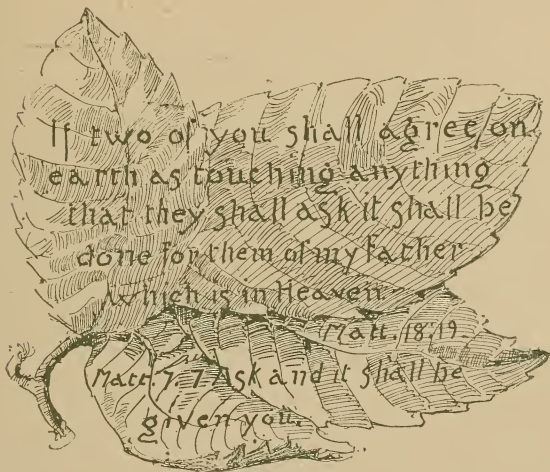
Prayer "according to His will,"
Cannot but be answering heard;
God will grand designs fulfil . . .
Purposes of His wise will,
While thus faithful to His Word.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Expect answers to prayer.

Verily, verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it to you.

JOHN xvi. 23.



. . . If we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.

1 JOHN v. 14, 15.

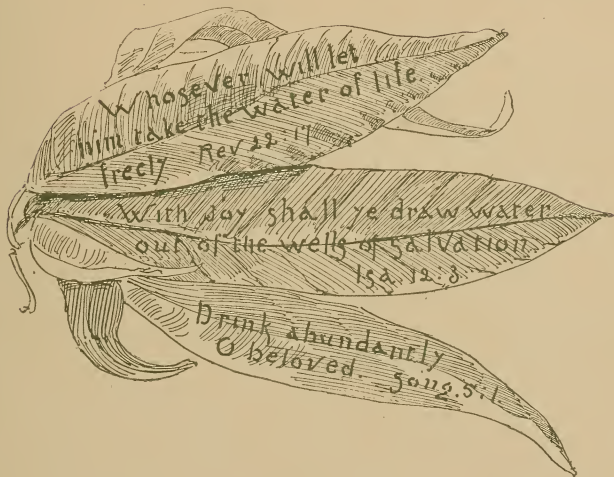
“All that He hath spoken,
He will surely do!
Nothing shall be broken,
Every word is true.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Drink of the water of life.

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.

ISA. lv. 1.



. . . Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

JOHN iv. 14.

Most of us would like to be becomingly dressed and desire that our garments be perfect-fitting, graceful in drapery, and of such texture and shade of color as pleases us. . . . These texts refer to a dress which perfectly fits all who wear it, is of the purest color, always becoming, and is more beautiful than that of the bride adorned with her jewels. It is the "best robe" the Lord could make, and will cover all our "filthy rags" so completely that we shall be "fair" in His sight.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

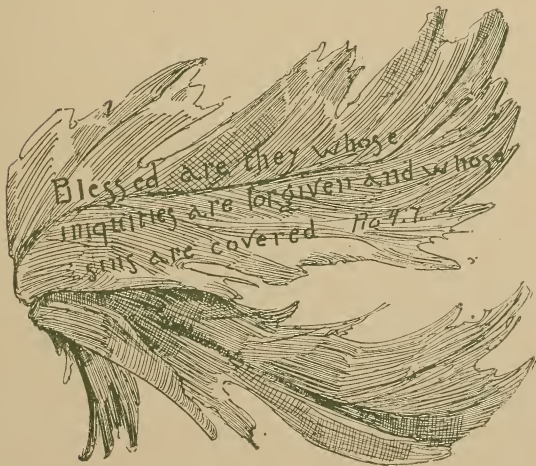
Wear white raiment.

I counsel thee to buy of me . . . white raiment,
that thou mayest be clothed.

REV. iii. 18.

. . . My soul shall be joyful in my God, for He hath
clothed me with the garments of salvation; He hath covered
me with the robe of righteousness.

ISA. lxi. 10.



I would be beautiful to Thee,
My ever gracious King ; —
Yet nothing but deformity
And wretchedness can bring.
O, open now Thy stores of grace,
Thy beauty put on me,
Enfold me in Thy righteousness —
Then, I'll be “ fair ” to Thee !

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Seek inward adorning.

. . . The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

1 SAM. xvi. 7.

Whose adorning . . . let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

1 PETER iii. 3, 4.



“ Be up and be doing,” “ from sun to sun,”

Let the business be something that ought to be done,

It will keep from wrong doing and help you to live;

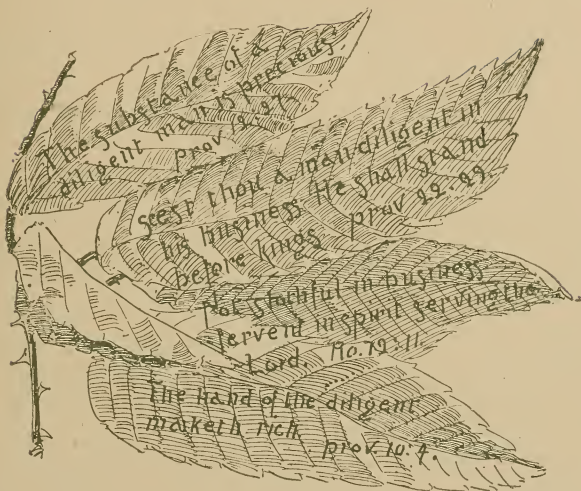
Or else, will provide you with something to give

To the poor and the needy, the sick, or the lame —

And this will bring blessing, if done “ In His name.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be diligent in business.



. . . Study . . . to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, . . . that ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

1 THESS. iv. 11, 12.

It is not the money which is "the root of all evil" but the intense love of it; the grasping desire to acquire and possess it, at whatever cost to ourselves; and without proper regard for the rights of others.

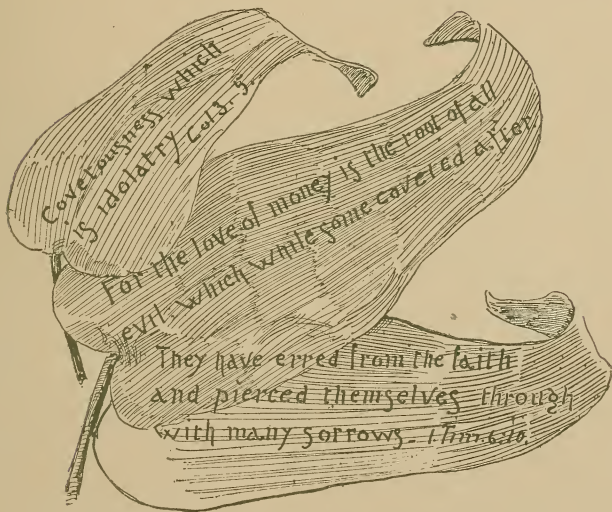
He, who knew the "deceitfulness of riches," bids us "take heed, and beware."

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Avoid covetousness.

Take heed and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

LUKE xii. 15.



. . . O man of God, flee these things.

1 TIM. vi. 11.

As a madman, who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death, So is the man that deceiveth his neighbor, and saith, Am not I in sport ?

SOLOMON.

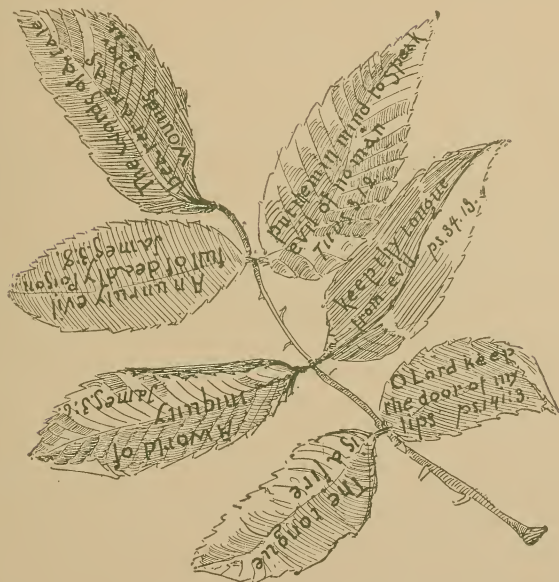
“ Think before you speak.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Avoid evil speaking.

If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man.

JAMES iii. 2.



Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer.

Ps. xix. 14.

“ Quiet in God, the ever-present seal
Of faith unspoken !
Believing faces — infant lips, reveal
The nameless token.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be quiet.

. . . The effect of righteousness (shall be) quietness
and assurance forever.

ISA. xxxii. 17.



. . . In quietness and confidence shall be your strength.

ISA. xxx. 15.

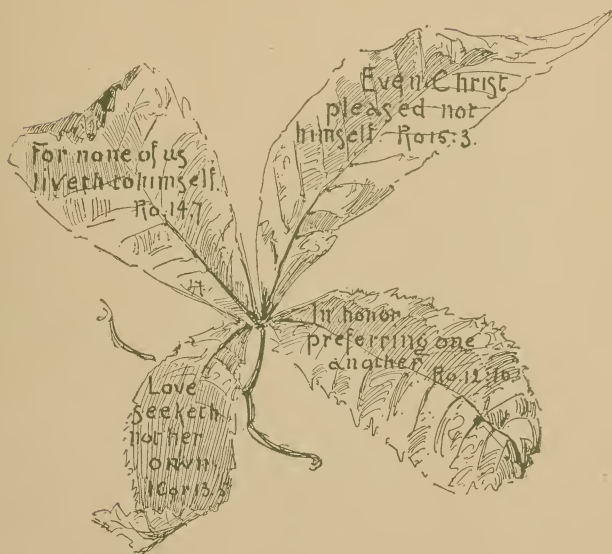
Stay not like folded bud, enclosing all
Your sweets within yourself, until the blast
Of selfishness binds you so tightly round
That 'tis impossible to burst the bonds;
And you, slow with'ring, die, with half your life
All cramped and useless.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Be unselfish.

Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.

MATT. vii. 12.



. . . In lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

PHIL. ii. 3.

Leave God to order all thy ways
And hope in Him, whate'er betide;
Thou'lt find Him in the evil days,
An all-sufficient strength and guide.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love,
Builds on the rock that naught can move.

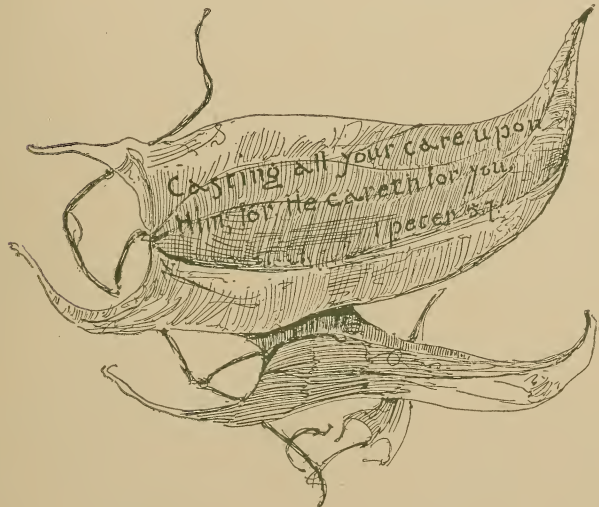
GEORGE NEUMARK.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Guard against over-anxiety.

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat ? or What shall we drink ? or Wherewithal shall we be clothed ? . . . For your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

MATT. vi. 31, 32.



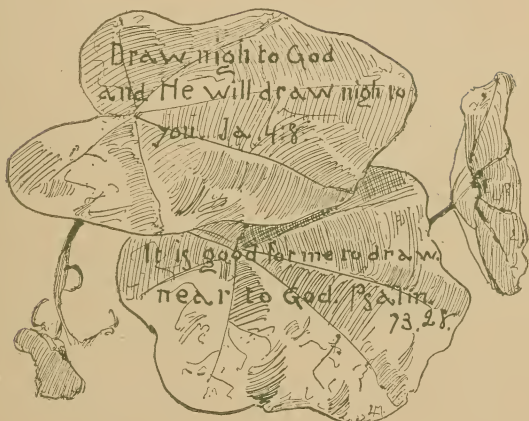
Be careful for nothing ; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

PHIL. iv. 6.

“ Nearer my God to Thee,
Nearer to Thee,
E'en though it be a cross
That raiseth me.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Live near to God.



The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.

PSALM cxlv. 18.

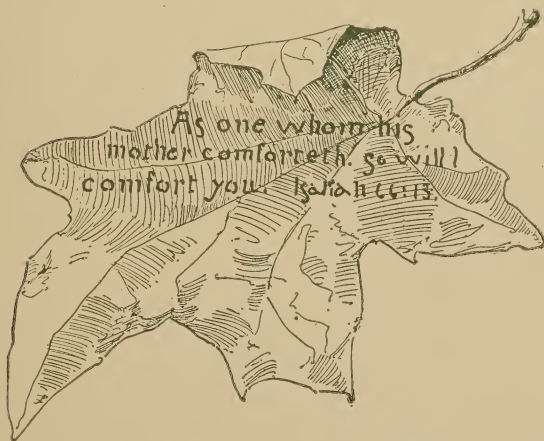
All our springs of comfort flow,
Forth from Thee the living source;
Every tiny joy we know,
All abundant overflow,
Draws from Thee its kindly force,
Grateful, thankful, let us be,
And ascribe all praise to Thee.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Look to God for comfort.

In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

JOHN xvi. 33.



. . . The God of all comfort: . . . Who comforteth us in all our tribulation.

2 COR. i. 3, 4.

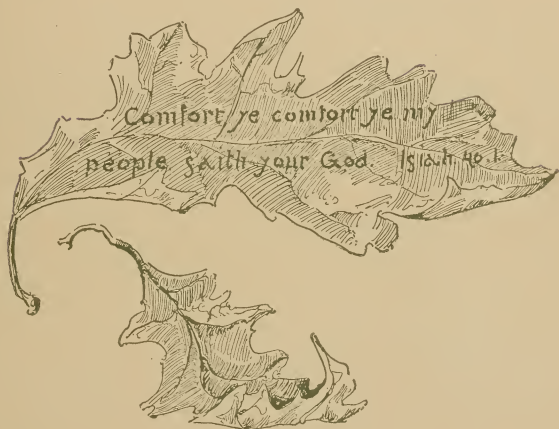
Hearts are aching for kind words,
Which your lips may speak;
Minds are waiting for some thought
You to them may take.
Sick ones wait for kindly deed
Which your hands may do;
Comfort give, that you would need
Were each sufferer you.
Has God given to your heart
Comfort from His Word?
Quickly then the joy impart,
It will please your Lord.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Comfort others.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 THESS. iv. 18.



. . . That we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2 COR. i. 4.

How tenderly familiar! that He calls us by name, and
gives us,

“ . . . the pure white stone -
And in the stone a secret name;
A strange new name: and no two stones
Shall bear inscription quite the same.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Remember that He calls me by name.

. . . Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

ISAIAH xliii. 1.



To him that overcometh, will I give . . . a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth, saving he that receiveth it.

REV. ii. 17.

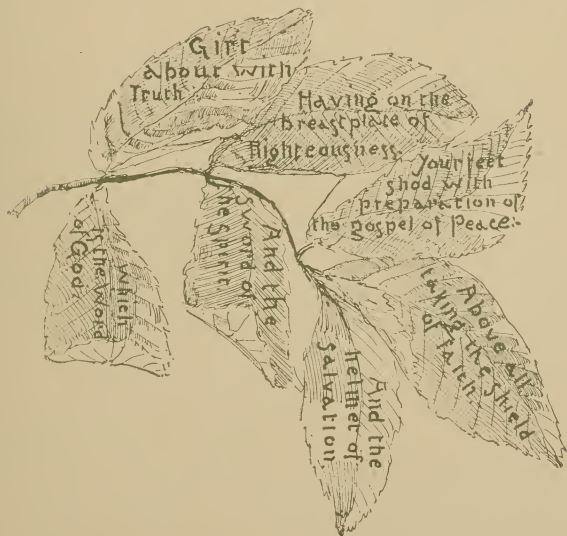
Our foes are many and powerful, although unseen by us, and we are weak and helpless; yet God has provided a complete armor, which if "put on," and worn according to His directions, will render us invincible.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Put on the Christian armor.

Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

EPH. vi. 11.



Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance.

EPH. vi. 14-18.

. . . The joy will be most sweet
Because most natural. To see Him there
To know and love Him, and His image bear,
Will make it homelike. Though the golden street
Were more than golden, yet it still would be
The "Father's house" and nothing else to thee.

LUCY A. BENNETT.

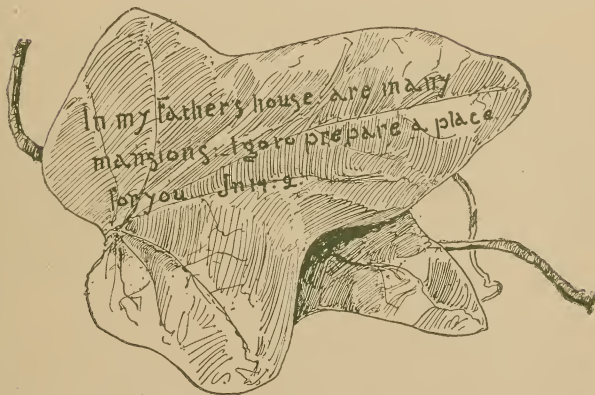
From "Heavenward."

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Look homeward.

. . . We have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2 COR. v. 1.



Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given me, be with me where I am: that they may behold my glory which Thou hast given me.

JOHN xvii. 24.

'Tis easy praising God when everything moves according to our wishes; . . . let us so trust Him, as to glorify Him by praise, even amid "the fires" of affliction.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Praise the Lord.

. . . Praise the name of the Lord: for His name alone is excellent.

Ps. cxlviii. 13.



Sing unto the Lord a new song, and His praise in the congregation of saints.

Ps. cxlix. 1.

“ Rejoice in the Lord.”

Rejoice that He is; rejoice that He is perfect in all His ways; and most of all, rejoice that He has provided a Way, by which sinners may be brought back to Him, and enjoy Him, now, and forever.

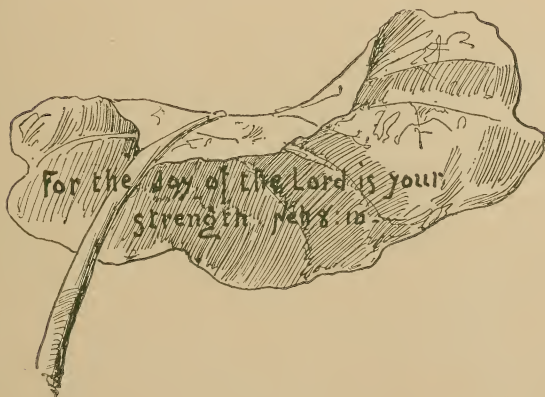
“ Again I say, rejoice.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Rejoice in the Lord.

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

JOHN xv. 11.



. . . In whom though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable, and full of glory.

1 PETER i. 8.

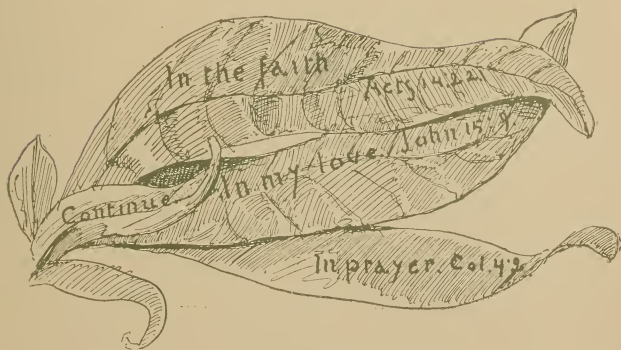
“ Hold on, my heart, in thy believing !
The steadfast only wins the crown.
He who, when stormy waves are heaving,
Parts with his anchor shall go down ;
But he who Jesus holds through all
Shall stand, though heaven and earth should fall.”

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Persevere in endeavor.

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.

JOHN viii. 31.



. . . Let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

GAL. vi. 9.

Let me so close abide in Thee,
That there no obstacle shall be
 Between my heart and Thine;
And let, through all my heart-veins, flow
That which shall make me fruitful grow —
 The living sap Divine!
While drawing thus all power from Thee
Worthless myself, yet rich I'll be!
 O may I thus in Thee abide,
 And Thou in me be glorified.

I WILL ENDEAVOR TO

Bear much fruit.

Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit :
so shall ye be my disciples.

JOHN XV. 8.



The fruit of the Spirit.

GAL. V. 22, 23.

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